

## **Research Activity Panel Meeting Summary**

### **Gregor M. Cailliet, MLML, RAP Chair**

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#### **AUGUST 1999 MEETING**

Host: National Marine Fisheries Service: Tiburon/Santa Cruz Lab

Date: August 13, 1999; 09:00 - 12:00

Attendance: 8 RAP members and 1 guest.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

##### **Institutional Update: NMFS Tiburon/Santa Cruz Labs (Churchill Grimes)**

- The purpose of this laboratory is to provide information to fishery managers.
- The building is scheduled to be completed by the spring of 2000.
- Most employees of the Tiburon laboratory will move to Santa Cruz in the fall of 1999 to increase collaborations.
- Traditionally, the program has been groundfish. Now, salmon is 75% of budget.
- There are four branches:
  1. Physiological Ecology (Functional relationships between rockfishes and salmon and their environment, but new focus will be on coastal systems of Monterey Bay and Gulf of Farallons plus building a genetics program)
  2. Coastal Marine Communities (mostly field work on rockfishes and salmon, with new emphasis to be on essential fish habitat [EFH])
  3. Salmon Analysis (modeling group; develop understanding of population dynamics and sociobioeconomics)
  4. Groundfish Analysis (mainly population dynamics and stock assessment, including annual pelagic juvenile rockfish surveys since 1983).

#### **DISCUSSION**

##### **Undersea Cable Projects (Andrew DeVogelaere)**

- Andrew DeVogelaere passed out the SAC report on undersea cables, including maps and summaries of Global Photon and MCI Worldcom projects. RAP thought that it would be interesting to explore the idea of tapping observatory instruments into the cable; there was concern about sensitive habitats: cold seeps, brachiopod beds.

##### **RAP Member Updates**

- Jeff Paduan announced the NPS cabled observatory is up and running. He will circulate the appropriate web address to the RAP
- Chris Harrold gave an update on MBARI's COMB
- Geoff Wheat announced that COOL did not get congressional funding.
- Churchill Grimes expressed his opinion that there is a poor network in California to inform the congressional delegation on marine issues. He suggested that the RAP develop connections and request that MBCORC take this on as a project.

##### **Ricketts Lecture and Science Award Nominations (Andrew DeVogelaere)**

- Names were placed for Science Award and Ricketts speaker. It was decided to ask the RAP for more names and nomination paragraphs by September 15.

## **Sanctuary Currents program for 2000 (Greg Cailliet/Andrew DeVogelaere)**

- Greg reviewed recent meetings, and revealed that he and Steve Webster will be "Co-Chairs" and the topic will be long-term marine ecosystem change: natural variations versus human effects. Speakers would suggest at the end of their talks, how would they would improve monitoring and suggest to MBNMS how to pursue their ecosystem monitoring program.

## **Pt. Pinos Proposed Rocky Shore Regulation (Chris Harrold)**

- Chris gave the history of the Pt Pinos issues, leading up to the proposal by local resident for special protection for intertidal habitats.
- Greg indicated that the SAC had requested a Tidepool Protection Committee, but that he had indicated a different name would be more appropriate.
- The RAP decided that Chris Harrold and Andrew DeVogelaere would represent the RAP on the tidepool assessment committee. John Pearse (UCSC) and Jim Barry (MBARI), scientists who have studied intertidal ecology, will be asked to join the committee as consultants.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **Ecosystem Monitoring Update (Mario Tamburri/Andrew De Vogelaere)**

- Mario noted he was about half to three-quarters done in his survey of existing work.

### **MBCORC Meeting Summary (Gregor Cailliet)**

- Administrative products: key words, posters, etc. has not yet been completed. The Ocean Health initiative was discussed. Do a retrospective (synthesize monitoring data), then project monitoring into the future.

### **Sound in the Sea Report by the NRDC (Gregor Cailliet)**

- The report was circulated and briefly discussed.

### **Research Coordinator Hiring (Bill Douros)**

- Andrew DeVogelaere was selected to fill the MBNMS Research Coordinator position after a national search and formal selection process.